



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2003

No. 164

## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. STEVENS].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God our rock, great is Your glory, and worthy is Your name. We lean upon Your great strength, for You are our anchor on life's raging seas. As we prepare for the long day ahead, give Your servants in this place, the chosen of the people, the discipline to embrace Your wisdom. Remind them that true wisdom is pure, peaceful, gentle, impartial, sincere, merciful, and productive. May they remember that You expect from us faithful stewardship of

our time. Give them the grace to use words responsibly, for the power of life and death is in the tongue. Place within their hearts a desire to be instruments for Your glory. Deliver them from discouragement and today let them mend the defective, bringing order where there is chaos and choosing the road that leads to life. We pray this in the name of Our Creator. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning, the Senate will begin consideration of the VA-HUD appropriations bill. We expect to have amendments offered and debated before the noon hour. Therefore, rollcall votes are anticipated. This is the final individual appropriations bill that will be considered on the floor, and it is my hope that we can finish the VA-HUD bill during today's session.

### NOTICE

If the 108th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before November 21, 2003, a final issue of the Congressional Record for the 108th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on Monday, December 15, 2003, in order to permit Members to revise and extend their remarks.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

ROBERT W. NEY, *Chairman*.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S14463